

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS REGULATION

**DEPARTMENT OF
TELECOMMUNICATIONS & ENERGY**

ONE SOUTH STATION

MITT ROMNEY
GOVERNOR

BOSTON, MA 02110
(617) 305-3500

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CHAIRMAN

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LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Registered Local Exchange Carriers in Massachusetts
and Interested Persons

FROM: Joan Foster Evans, Hearing Officer

DATE: April 24, 2003

RE: Verizon Massachusetts' Performance Assurance Plan
February 2003 Proposed Revisions to the Performance Assurance Plan;
New Docket Number for Performance Assurance Plan Filings
Request for Comments
D.T.E. 03-50

CC: D.T.E. 99-271 Service List
Mary Cottrell, Secretary
Paul G. Afonso, General Counsel
Michael Isenberg, Director Telecommunications Division
Candice Allgaier, Telecommunications Division

I. BACKGROUND

On February 12, 2003, Verizon New England Inc. d/b/a Verizon Massachusetts ("Verizon") filed with the Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department") a Revised Performance Assurance Plan ("PAP") for the Department's review. Verizon states that the revisions are consistent with the New York Public Service Commission's January 23, 2003 Order in which it amended the New York PAP, and with Verizon's compliance filings in the New York proceeding. Verizon also included Massachusetts-specific changes, which

Verizon states do not affect the workings of the PAP. Under the Massachusetts PAP, Verizon must obtain Department approval of any revisions to the PAP. February 2003 PAP at 27. Verizon maintains that it plans to implement the PAP changes two calendar months following the Department's approval of the revisions.

II. REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

The Department invites interested persons to file written comments on the changes to the PAP no later than the close of business, **Thursday, May 8, 2003**. Reply comments shall be filed by **Thursday, May 15, 2003**. One original and (3) three copies of initial and reply comments must be filed with:

Mary Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station, 2nd Floor
Boston, MA 02110

In addition to filing a paper copy of written comments, commenters must, if possible, file comments in electronic format by e-mail attachment to dte.efiling@state.ma.us (copy to Joan.Evans@state.ma.us). The electronic filing must specify: (1) the case caption; (2) the docket number (D.T.E. 03-50); (3) the name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (4) a brief descriptive title of document (e.g., comments). The electronic filing should also include the name, title, and phone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing. Text responses should be written in either Word Perfect (naming the document with a ".wpd" suffix) or in Microsoft Word, (naming the document with a ".doc" suffix). Data or spreadsheet responses should be compatible with Microsoft Excel. Documents submitted in electronic format, as well as Verizon's filing, will be posted on the Department's website, <http://www.mass.gov/dpu/>.

III. NEW DOCKET NUMBER FOR PAP-RELATED FILINGS

In order to facilitate locating materials relating to the PAP, the Department has opened a new docket number for ongoing PAP-related filings. The new docket number is D.T.E. 03-50. This docket will be used for changes to the PAP, upcoming audits, and the monthly performance reports filed by Verizon. The current docket for Verizon's request for a waiver of certain service results under the PAP, which is D.T.E. 03-38, will not be affected. The Department will no longer use D.T.E. 99-271 for PAP-related matters, and that docket will be closed.

All entities on the service list for D.T.E. 99-271 will automatically be placed on the service list for D.T.E. 03-50. A copy of the service list is attached to this memorandum. Please provide any changes, including missing email addresses, to Joan Foster Evans at the email address below. In addition, any other entities who wish to be added to the new service list may also notify Joan Foster Evans. Filings relating to the PAP may be viewed on the Department's web site at www.mass.gov/dpu/.

For questions on this matter, please contact Joan Foster Evans, Hearing Officer, at 617-305-3613 or Joan.Evans@state.ma.us.